

What is claimed is:

1. The method of controlling an electrically powered utilization device connected to receive electrical power from a conventional alternating current electrical wall outlet socket in response to the actuation of either a manually-operated wall-mounted switch or a second manually operated switch located at said utilization device, said method comprising, in combination, the steps of:

connecting a two-wire power line from a continuous source of electrical power to the input of an electrically operated switch,

connecting the output of said electrically operated switch to said utilization device,

applying a direct current control voltage across said two-wire power line whenever said wall-mounted switch is turned ON,

generating a control signal whenever said second switch at said utilization device is actuated, and

operating said electrically operated switching means in response to both said direct current control voltage and said control signal to connect or disconnect said electrically powered utilization device from said two-wire power line whenever either said wall switch or said second switch is actuated.

2. The method of controlling an electrically powered utilization device as set forth in claim 1 wherein said electrically powered utilization device is an electric lamp.

3. The method of controlling an electrically powered utilization device as set forth in claim 1 wherein said step of applying a direct current control voltage across said two-wire power line whenever said wall-mounted switch is turned ON is performed by an adapter connected to an electrical wall outlet which receives switched electrical power whenever said wall mounted switch is turned ON.

4. The method of controlling an electrically powered utilization device as set forth in claim 3 wherein said adapter includes at least one diode for applying a DC voltage across said two-wire line from said switched electrical power.

5. Apparatus for controlling the energization of an electrically operated device from a conventional wall outlet consisting of first and second female outlet sockets, said first socket being connected to receive continuous alternating current power from an available power source and said second socket being connected to receive switched alternating current power from said source via said household wall switch, said apparatus comprising, in combination:

a first adapter including first and second male input plugs adapted for insertion into first and second female outlet sockets respectively, said adapter further including a third female outlet socket for receiving a third male plug connected to one end of a two wire power line for supplying electrical power to said device, said first adapter further including means for applying a control voltage to said two wire power line when said second socket receives switched power from said source, and

a second adapter comprising, in combination,

a manually operated device switch,

an electrically operated switch for connecting and disconnecting said electrically operated device and said two wire power line, and

a control circuit for actuating said electrically operated switch in response to both said control voltage received via said two wire power line and to the actuation of said manually operated switch.

6. Apparatus for controlling the energization of an electrically operated device as set forth in claim 5 wherein said electrically operated device is an electrical lamp.

7. Apparatus for controlling the energization of an electrically operated device as set forth in claim 6 wherein said electrical lamp includes a threaded socket for receiving a lamp bulb and wherein said second adapter includes a threaded bayonet base for insertion into said threaded socket of said lamp and further includes a second threaded socket for receiving said lamp bulb.

8. Apparatus for controlling the energization of an electrically operated device as set forth in claim 5 wherein said control voltage is a direct current control voltage and wherein said means for applying said control voltage to said two wire power line comprises at least one diode connected between said second male input plug and said third female outlet socket.

9. Apparatus for controlling the energization of an electrically operated device as set forth in claim 8 wherein said electrical lamp includes a threaded socket for receiving a lamp bulb and wherein said second adapter includes a threaded bayonet base for insertion into said threaded socket of said lamp and further includes a second threaded socket for receiving said lamp bulb.

10. The method of controlling the energization of a light bulb that plugs into a bulb socket of an existing electric lamp via the lamp's existing two-wire power supply line in response to the operation of either a conventional manually-operated wall-mounted electrical power switch or the operation of a second manually-operated switch located at the lamp comprising, in combination, the steps of:

connecting a first adapter to a first existing wall outlet that receives continuous power from an available source,

connecting said first adapter to a second existing wall outlet that receives switched power via said conventional electrical wall-mounted switch,

connecting the male plug at the end of said lamp's existing two-wire power supply line to said first adapter to receive continuous power from said first existing wall socket and to receive a control voltage derived from said switched power received at said second existing wall socket, and

inserting the bayonet base of a second adapter into said bulb socket of said lamp and inserting said light bulb into a second bulb socket defined by said second adapter, said second adapter further including said second manually operated switch and a control circuit responsive to the operation of said second manually-operated switch and to said control voltage for energizing and deenergizing said light bulb.

11. The method of controlling the energization of a light bulb as set forth in claim 10 wherein said first adapter further includes means for applying said control voltage to said existing two wire power line when said second existing socket receives switched power from said source.

12. The method of controlling the energization of a light bulb as set forth in claim 11 wherein said control voltage is a direct current control voltage and wherein said means for applying said control voltage to said two wire power line comprises at least one diode connected between said second existing wall outlet and two existing two-wire power supply line.